

AROUND THE FARM.

Edited by ANDREW H. WARD.

Malting Food for Stock.

It is claimed that by cooking food for stock it is rendered more digestible and therefore more nourishing, and that a less quantity is required to produce the same results as that not cooked. This is undoubtedly true, but the expense counteracts in a great measure the economy, and the cost of apparatus precludes its use, unless there are a large number of stock to feed.

The same result can be effected by malting the grain, as barley is in the manufacture of beer, and it will save time and toll on the grain, avoiding the necessity of sending it to the mill to be ground. Since the malt duties have been repealed in England the feeding of malt instead of grain prevails to a very large extent.

Grain is malted by successive operations. The first is steeping, without which the grain will not germinate, which is requisite before the nature can be changed. The steeping is done in a wooden cistern, into which the grain is put and water added about in proportion of three (3) parts of water to four (4) parts of grain.

From absorption of water the grain swells in bulk and increases in weight about 50 per cent.

The time of steeping, which varies according to its temperature, and the water used, is from forty-eight to seventy-two hours. It should lie in the cistern till it no longer swells, after which the liquor being drawn off it is left to the depth of from twelve to sixteen inches, and left for twenty-four hours.

The surface of the grain is so entirely free from moisture that it does not feel damp, but by degrees it becomes warmer, its temperature being ten degrees above that of the atmosphere, and it gives out an agreeable, fruity smell.

About ninety-six hours after the grain has been taken out of the steep, the heat is the greatest; consequently the radicles sprout in length with rapidity, and must be checked by being more thoroughly spread out on the floor to the depth of three or four inches, and turned at least twice during the day. At the conclusion of the germination, it is fed or dried to prevent further growth. The following is the change which takes place when barley is converted into malt, and other grains vary only in degree:

	Bailey, Malt.
Gluten parts.....	3
Sugar parts.....	4
Gum parts.....	5
Starch parts.....	88
Total.....	99

If it is to be malted, with water and rye, it is put into a tub, and the water is used to ferment it, to answer the same purpose as cooking it, converts a portion of the indigestible substances, and makes them digestible, which is what cooking the food does.

Cooked grain, when it is to be malted, is put into a tub, and the water is used to ferment it, to answer the same purpose as cooking it, converts a portion of the indigestible substances, and makes them digestible, which is what cooking the food does.

This is as easily done as cooking, and saves the costly apparatus. A large box in which to hold the hay, that it may be somewhat compressed, is all that is required, and if grain and pupped roots are mixed with it and all fermented together, the whole makes a food superior to that fed raw, while the mixture is better than any of the ingredients alone.

There is but little saved in labor, but the saving on food and apparatus are items to be considered, and moreover, when the grain is malted or used combined with the hay the trouble of going to mill is avoided and the toll on the grain saved.

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Raw cotton seed cannot be fed without injury, but if germinated it will answer in place of corn or other grain as food for stock, and much seed that is now wasted or used as a manure can be first utilized for feed, thus converting it into manure in its most suitable form. Where cotton is raised there should be no occasion to purchase cotton seed to make meal, as the cotton seed is far superior to corn. Compared with hay at ten dollars per ton the feeding values are: Corn per ton seventeen dollars and twenty cents (\$17.20); cotton seed germinated, twenty-six dollars and twenty cents (\$26.20). Cotton seed should pay the whole cost of raising the cotton crop, and the cotton sold should be all profit. Why sell the seed for mere nothing and so far reduce the productive capacity of your lands, purchasing frequently at an exorbitant price, corn, an article not as good to supply its place.

A. H. W.

Cost of Phosphoric Acid.

Intelligent farmers want to know why farmers are induced to pay twelve and one-half cents per pound, when they can buy phosphoric acid, finely ground, for ten cents per pound, the phosphoric acid contained therein, which is soluble in the water of the soil. Providence does not furnish distilled water for the growth of plants. A. H. W.

Fertilizing Influence of Air, Frost, Wind and Rain.

Recently my attention was caught by a lengthy communication in an agricultural paper condemning the exposure of land to the winter; and the long-continued rest of ground. It was ascertained that "when land lies a certain length of time unbroken the vegetable matter in it becomes exhausted, and no longer capable as a chemical ingredient or agent, to perform certain functions necessary to an improvement of the soil." "It was discovered early in the history of Kentucky that it was unprofitable to let land lie fallow, as it would not, when let run beyond a certain time, improve for grain; it remains in the power of frost and rain to do so well understood by many farmers and gardeners that steps are often taken to protect land that has been left fallow from the injurious action of the winter. This is a "certainly a new departure" in agriculture. It appears to controvert these positions. It ignores those principles of agriculture which are in unworked soil—the wonderful agencies of sun, atmosphere, wind, rain and frost. At this moment there is a gory going on from much of the lands of this country, and it is a general agent. Their action is all-powerful, both when their bosom is rent and upheaved. Especially are the effects beneficial in the case of the ploughed land, which speaks Sol broken up aids the beneficial atmospheric fertilization I have alluded to, by being made more receptive.

"Dugong, ploughing and pulverizing the soil and exposing the surface to the action of the summer sun and the winter's frost, are highly useful operations by which the insects are destroyed, and much air admitted into its particles." Says the American Agriculturist. "The frequent ploughing and stirring of the soil insure the free entrance of air and the better circulation of the soil water. These mechanical improvements facilitate the decomposition of some of the constituents of plant food from the locked up and insoluble chemical compounds of the soil. The ammonia of the atmosphere which enters the soil through the pores of the soil is adsorbed, and last but not least, the vegetable matter in the soil is more quickly and thoroughly decomposed, and thereby made available for sustaining the growth of plants." Dr. George D. Davis maintains, "The soil must be kept in a peat-like, 'mellow' condition, so as to admit the rain water, and magnetic heat and light of the sun, and to allow the soil to decompose and to chemically prepare the food." Says a thoughtful writer in the New York Weekly: "By mechanically working the soil, we make it easier to cultivate, render more available the original measure of fertility naturally possessed by the soil. We can add to it art. The soil being composed of materials that are only partially exposed to the influences of heat, air and moisture before it can be made to grow crops, it is then thus converted into a condition of usefulness, and if the quality of the subsoil is favorable, the gradual opening and work of the soil, through the agency of the weather, will bring it into a condition of permanence, except to a very moderate depth below the surface, and the subsoil is only able to bear crops, and the surface to support them, or to a very great degree devoid of fertility. 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Boston Weekly Globe.

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It describes life in New England and adventures in the South during the civil war, and relates in a picturesque and affecting manner the story of the march from a New England farm to the Southern battlefields. Nearly every Northern home will verify the truth of these scenes, and incidents from its own patriotic experience. It will be the most popular story yet published in THE GLOBE, and its publication offers a good opportunity to form clubs. Samples of the first chapters will be forwarded to agents if they order immediately. The fourteen months offer will be withdrawn June 1.

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Every letter and postal card should bear the full name of the writer, his post office, county and State.

Every notice of change of residence should give former as well as present address, and both in full.

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REPUBLICANS ARE NOT UNGRATEFUL.

Republicans certainly are. After all Eliza Pinckton had done for the party it was the basest ingratitude to let her die in a prison, under sentence for such a pitiful crime as petty larceny.

The amount of fish eaten in this country is pretty well shown by the fact that \$80,000,000 pounds were brought into the port of Gloucester during the year 1882. This is over a pound and a half to every man, woman and child in the United States. No wonder this is a bright nation. The sturdy Gloucester fisherman can point with pride to this record.

It is said that the severe frosts of last winter killed the seed corn in Wisconsin and Minnesota so that it will not germinate. Corn was planted earlier than usual this year, and not coming up, investigation was made, and the kernels were discovered to be rotting. It is believed that this will be disastrous to the corn crop in these States, as it is impossible to get new seed which will do well.

A California paper, which has been collecting statistics of the number of suicides in this country for a short time past, finds that the number of farmers are largely in excess of any other class. Numerous city people who have "the suburban fever" about this time, if interviewed in the fall, may be asked to explain to their own satisfaction at least, why farmers prefer death to the plough, the hoe or the rake.

The most interesting newspaper is the American and Chinese Commercial News, published weekly in San Francisco by Kim Wing & Co. Its outside pages are printed in English, and its inside pages in the Chinese language, and it is the only journal of the kind published in the world. We feel hardly competent to judge of the Chinese portion of the paper, but that part of it printed in English is conducted with marked ability, and the whole paper is evidently meeting with due success.

Wall Street sadly misses Jay Gould. After all, the great stock speculator was necessary to the existence of a horde of small speculators, bumboers and lobbyists. It is so with other public men. When prominently before the people they are maligned, their acts misconstrued, and their wealth is a source of envy to the multitude. These same public men directly or indirectly support many people, some of whom traduce their character behind their backs, and will blubber at their friends and tell how good they were. Such is life.

Mr. Laboucheur has at last declared war on the system of perpetual pensions in Parliament. The rewards of that recent small war in England have led to this attack on the part of the Radicals. The pensions which are now charged to what is known as the "Consolidated Fund" are said to be free gifts for which there is no warrant. As these pensions and molesties affect the financial affairs of some of the greatest men and their relatives in the realm, the gigantic proportions of the plan of Mr. Laboucheur and his friends can easily be imagined. It is doubtful whether they will succeed, but the contest will be none the less interesting.

In the Bechaump murder trial, now going on at Denton, Md., in which the widow is accused of poisoning her husband, a curious deceit which the dead man practised upon his wife during their courtship is likely to fix the guilt upon her. It seems that Bechaump could neither read nor write, but he used to correspond with her regularly, using his brother as an amanuensis. The deceit never was discovered by her, and after his death a letter was found purporting to be written by him, announcing his intention of committing suicide. The government expects to prove that she wrote the letter, imitating the brother's handwriting—a piece of testimony worthy of a sensational trial.

It is said that John Brown left a diary, which will not be published at present. The Greville memoirs contained too many scandals about royal personages to have dairies, written by men with opportunities of knowing the mysteries of court life, very pleasant reading for the Queen. John Brown was behind the scenes for many years, and it has told that he saw and heard it will make mighty interesting reading. There seems to be a genius in Englishmen for writing dairies, and nothing is more useful to posterity. Written at the time of the occurrences they record, minute incidents that would otherwise slip the mind and be forever lost are fixed, and the future historian is thereby enabled to ascertain the secret springs of political movements. Americans, unfortunately, have rarely spent much time in diary-keeping. What a spicy book Wendell Phillips' diary would make if he had described all his interviews with

political men during the last forty years. The very thoughts of it are enough to make some great men's ears tingle.

THE PHILADELPHIA CONVENTION.

The convention at Philadelphia handled the difficult and delicate task before it with much tact and ability. The reports of the meetings show that wise counsels prevailed and not only that the leaders would have used every effort to prevent any declaration or action that would either reflect against the position of this government or embarrass the Irish leaders across the ocean, but also that there was no disposition among the delegates to take any action or speak any word in that direction. It is evident that the convention was in hearty sympathy with the efforts of Mr. Parnell and his co-workers, and that the world would permit nothing which might be interpreted as an endorsement of any line of action detrimental to their interests.

The convention reached its most important work yesterday in the adoption of the ringing and well-considered platform, which sets forth the reason, plan and purposes of the meeting. It concisely recounts the history of the relations between England and Ireland and its conclusion that, in view of these facts, "the English government, in Ireland, originating in usurpation, perpetuated by force, having failed to discharge any of the duties of government, never having acquired the consent of the governed, has no moral right whatever to exist in Ireland," states the case tersely and justly.

The platform follows very closely the plan of the National League adopted at Dublin last October. But it diverges enough from that platform to give the necessary accommodation to the different conditions under which it must work. The five planks of the Dublin platform were, national self-government, land law reform, local self-government, extension of the parliamentary and municipal franchises, and the development and encouragement of the labor and industrial interests of Ireland. A similar league in America, it is evident, will work under different conditions, and must conform its plan to those conditions. It can do little but aid the Irish League, and, accordingly, the platform pledges the support of Irish-Americans in the endeavor to gain national self-government. It lays special stress upon the last plank of the Dublin platform, and urges, first, the recognition and consideration of the labor interests, and next, the encouraging of the manufacturing interests of Ireland. And to these objects the platform pledges the aid and sympathy of the American organization.

That the convention was composed of men whose devotion to the United States is none the less hearty because of their love for Ireland is shown by the plank which protests against England's entrapment policy. The convention has accomplished the purpose for which it was called together, and has fused into one harmonious whole a hundred different organizations, with different aims and different principles—a task that on many sides had been declared wellnigh impossible.

MR. THOMPSON'S FOURTH.

The killing of Walter H. Davis by Congressman Philip B. Thompson, Jr., on Friday, an account of which was published in the telegraphic columns of this paper yesterday, seems to have lacked even those slim elements of justification which commonly hold good in the South. The victim was his particular friend, and the grounds were an improbable story that had seduced Thompson's discredited wife. It seems that Mrs. Thompson, on account of the administration of liquor to her during an illness, had acquired an uncontrollable passion for it, and has oftentimes been drunk.

Last November Mr. and Mrs. Thompson went to the St. Clair House in Cincinnati, and there he left her in the company of a young lady friend and went to Washington to attend the opening of Congress. That same evening Mrs. Thompson got drunk, and the public discovery of it so disgusted Miss Buckner, the friend, that she wrote to Mr. Thompson about it. In spite of her entreaties he then discarded his wife, took their children from her and refused to have anything more to do with her. Some people might think that this was pretty hard measure to mete to the mother of his children, who had acquired the fatal habit through illness, and that, at the most, consternation to an infatuate asylums would have been punishment enough. But not so this representative of Kentucky chivalry. He came home on the adjournment of Congress, and, last Tuesday, was told by the landlord of the St. Clair House that on the night of her intoxication at that hotel she had spent some hours in the room of Mr. Davis, who was also staying there. From his own statements he took no pains to seek any explanation of this.

It might have occurred to him that Mr. Davis, an old friend, had found his wife in her unfortunate condition and had allowed her the use of his room out of pity for her and regard for him.

So far as is known, he did not make the slightest effort to investigate the truth of the story, and did not give his victim any opportunity to explain what might well have been a perfectly innocent transaction. Armed with his revolver he took the train last Sunday morning at Harrodsburg, their residence. At a junction where they were obliged to change cars he saw Davis, and, firing at him through the window of the car, killed him instantly.

To all acquainted with affairs of this kind in Kentucky it is almost needless to say that he marched to the nearest court, accompanied by a sympathizing crowd, and promptly furnished bail. Meanwhile it seems to have been beneath the dignity of the reporter who telegraphed the affair to even mention what was done with the corpse of the slain man or the grief of his wife and family thus bereft of the husband and father. They are of no account. Neither is the miserable discredited woman probably innocent, nor her children and his, on whom a stigma has been cast for life, that is the great point. Mr. Davis, by the way, is the fourth man that Thompson, who is only 38 years old, has shot. The other three are said by his friends to have been shot in self-defense. Whether he has set up a "private graveyard" we are not informed. He will certainly need one if he keeps on as he has begun.

A BUTTER PANIC.

There is said to be a panic among the dealers in Vermont butter on account of the sudden fall in the price of old butter, which is now a drug in the market at ten cents a pound. Never before in the experience of the oldest dealers has there been such a demoralization, and the mourners are many. There are now in Boston and Vermont thousands of pounds of Vermont butter, made last year, and bought at an average rate of thirty-three cents, which has been held until recently in hopes of that which never came.

But not a few of the farmers in northern Vermont and New York are said to be in better shape than ever. The great ball-tail, or the costly butter, is still in demand, and is to light the market.

It has been said that the market for butter is

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THE DEFENCE OF LAVERGNE

Most Heroic Fight of the War—Wheeler's Worst Whipping.

How Four Hundred Wolverines Held a Brush Fort Against Six Times Their Number.

Five Successive Assaults by Cavalry and Artillery Repulsed.

(Detroit Free Press.)

Only one or two Federal historians have even made mention of the neat little fight at Lavergne, which occurred at the time of the battle of Stone River, and if the Confederate historian has touched upon it, he has scarcely dignified it in three or four lines. I have taken considerable pains to work up both sides, and the many facts and incidents which the dignified historian has refused to meddle with will certainly interest a large constituency today.

Lavergne is a bit of a town between Nashville and Murfreesboro, and, as Rosecrans left Nashville further and further behind him, he detailed various bodies to protect his lines of communication with the city. In many cases these details were gobble up—indeed, it was from capturing so many of them that Bragg came to show up such a large list of prisoners. Wheeler, Wharton, Pelegram and other Confederate cavalry leaders did not have a hand in the big fight at all, but worked around on the various pikes and highways, killing, capturing and burning. They had no operation after train, and such wagons as they could not run off were held up by the stand. Colonel Innes, having with him four hundred of the Michigan Regiment of Mechanics and Engineers—men who did not profess to do any fighting—was detailed to take position at Lavergne and keep the road open. He had no artillery, but the boys had a full supply of cartridges and were rather proud of being called to a part in the grand movement.

There is Just One Spot Around the Village where a single man of men could take position to successfully fight a larger body, and Innes at once seized upon it. On the range back of the town he posted his command and hastily covered it with a breastwork of logs, stones, rails and cedar trees cut down and dragged to the spot. He had no reason to expect a fight, and yet took all the precautions in the world.

The sounds of the battle between McCook and Hardee came to the men all the forenoon, and once in a while a stranger gave them news of how the fight was going, but it was not until after noon that it was known that the Confederate cavalry were cutting and slashing up and down the roads without check. Wheeler, having about 2600 men, had been sent to the direction of Murfreesboro, and he gobble everything on the road. Army wagons, sutter stores, ambulances and ammunition wagons were captured, and the rebels only had to stop and gobble everything. He meant to press on, but he found Innes there and dared not leave him in his rear. "We had made a big haul," explained he, "and had no horses, but the boys had a full supply of cartridges and were rather proud of being called to a part in the grand movement."

"He never said, 'I believe'."

"Refused? Why, he told Wheeler to go to h—l! There we were, six to one, and he could see it before his eyes, and he meant to fight!"

Wheeler Was Astonished and Amazed, but we had no time to fool away, and in ten minutes we were ready to drive those Wolverines out of their nest. A part of our men dismounted, the artillery was brought up, and when Wheeler, a colonel at attack, attacked the breastwork. It was one of those moments, and I didn't expect to hear a dozen muskets pop before seeing a white flag run up."

"But you didn't see one?"

"I know, I know, I went in with a yell, and I know I got them out with the last roar, but we came on singing a different song. Why, sir, they opened on us so hot and kept it up so continually that we heard the bugle blow regular with the sight of so many dead men in our way. The artillery kept blazing away until we were ready, and then we rushed. I was in the front line, and I calculate we were within a stone's throw of the breastwork before a gun went off."

"It was an awful roar, like a vivid flash of lightning crackling along the brush, and it was so bright that I shut my eyes for two or three seconds."

"We were dead."

"They were open on either side were killed stone dead. Indeed, I believe I saw forty men fall under that fire. We kept pushing on, shot at will, and flying without seeing a head to shoot at; and the rebels took my sleeve without drawing blood, and the first intimation I had was that the fight was going on, but he found Innes there and dared not leave him in his rear. 'We had made a big haul,' explained he, 'and had no horses, but the boys had a full supply of cartridges and were rather proud of being called to a part in the grand movement.'

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MOPSY,

The Little Heroine of the
North End.

BY KATE TANNATT WOODS.

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CHAPTER XIX.

he swore he would marry his cousin. He was only waiting to hear from Jack. Isa never would let him be dead."

"Did she leave any message for you when she left?"

The captain was still pacing the veranda in nervous steps.

"Yes, oh yes. Since I have troubled you with these personal matters, I will show it to you, if you like. Come inside, Brown must be getting late."

Both men entered the house, and the lawyer seated himself at a desk in the library. He unlocked drawer after drawer, and at last took from a small box a much worn piece of paper, which he handed to the captain.

"Must you not back to the sick boy soon?" he asked.

"He has excellent care."

"You can remain with me, Brown, and keep things straightened up a bit here and at the office, I wish you would; the servants are very good, but I have no time."

"I may take this to my room, sir, and read it at my leisure."

"Certainly, Brown, certainly; and do forgive me for troubling you in this fashion; it has been a relief for me to speak; I couldn't well talk of this to my own family."

The captain's hand trembled as he shook the lawyer warmly, and said, with feeling:

"The captain's heart ached for the sick boy."

"Good night."

CHAPTER XX.

A FAREWELL LETTER.

Great tears stood in the young man's eyes as he finished reading the following touching note:

"DEAREST UNCLE—I am going away for your good; I don't know before that you wished it."

"I don't know where we are to go; we have Harry many an heiress, and I was in the way."

"Why did you tell me? I love you so much I could do anything for you—even this. All these things are true, and whatever happens, no one must blame you. If I should be too late, how could I endure it?"

"I walked faster and faster although the night was warm, and at last reached the Junction three minutes before the heavy train came in."

"Would the conductor let him go into town?"

"In a case of life and death?"

"That might make a difference. I suppose, but there's nothing in the world like our orders."

"No man must go if any trouble is caused by my presence on your train, I will settle it with your chief."

"All right, sir, personally, I am glad to oblige; only you must obey orders."

"I know your chief; sir; he never fails to do a kindness if it is in his power."

"That was enough. If the gentleman was a friend of the conductor, even the freight conductor could permit himself to show his human side, and all the world knows that the Pittsburgh road can not be surpassed for courtesy and good fellowship. The captain's words were like the carouse and was made as comfortable as circumstances would permit. He could not rest, or think or sleep, and the next day he had a conference with the conductor.

"I will get on with the express to-day," he said, "and then you will have a chance for conversation."

"No man must go if, say, any trouble is caused by my presence on your train, I will settle it with your chief."

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